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Loyal Friends: Insights from a few of the Libraries' two-decade donors

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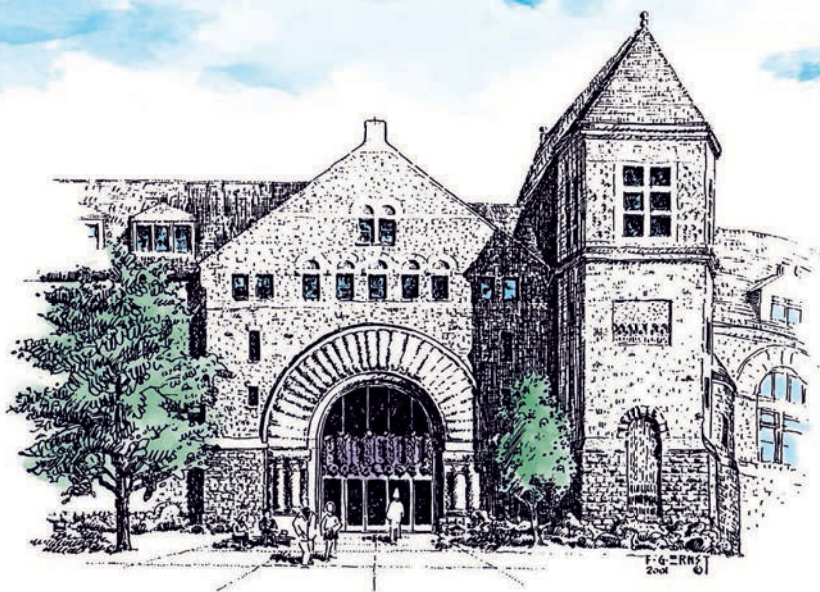


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Loyal Friends

MEET OUR DEVOTED DONORS.

In honor of Hale's 20th anniversary, we'd like to recognize a few generous friends who have given every year for the last two decades—or more! We are deeply grateful for their unwavering, steadfast support.

BY SARAH HOYT

JOLEEN HILL

In the early 1960s, Joleen (Irvine) Hill (BS '62), a literature major and member of many K-State voice ensembles, relied on her study carrel in Farrell Library. Three decades later, she renewed her devotion to K-State Libraries when, as a Trustee, she served on a fundraising committee charged with raising money for its renovation.

Her fellow committee members, Richard L.D. & Marjorie J. Morse, already had an abiding relationship with special collections, so the group often met there.

That's when she became more deeply committed to supporting K-State Libraries, and she joined the Friends of the K-State Libraries in 1991. Over the years, that organization's many memorable events have sustained and deepened her belief that the library is key to a great education.

Her advice to donors who have yet to log 20 consecutive gifts:



“ REALLY TAKE TIME TO VISIT THE LIBRARY. YOU’LL SEE THE GROUPS THAT STUDY TOGETHER, HOW IT’S IMPORTANT TO THEM, AND HOW THE LIBRARY REMAINS CENTRAL TO THE UNIVERSITY. ”

— JOLEEN HILL

VERLYN RICHARDS & EUGENE LAUGHLIN

Verlyn Richards (BS '56, MBA '60), emeritus professor of finance, and Gene Laughlin (MBA '59), emeritus professor of accounting, have always appreciated the Libraries. Both received degrees from K-State before embarking on long careers with the university's College of Business Administration.

The Libraries have been an abiding presence in their retirement: Richards and Laughlin are long-time sponsors of the Hale Library Concert Series, which launched in 2006. Richards says they also enjoy seeing the exhibits on Hale Library's fifth floor that feature selections from the Morse Department of Special Collections.

When asked why they give to K-State Libraries, Richards said,



“ WE SUPPORT THE LIBRARY BECAUSE IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO THE UNIVERSITY’S TEACHING AND RESEARCH MISSIONS, BUT, UNLIKE THE K-STATE ACADEMIC UNITS, THE LIBRARY DOESN’T HAVE A LARGE BASE OF ALUMNI SUPPORT. ”

— VERLYN RICHARDS



THE FRIENDS

OF THE K-STATE LIBRARIES

Be a Friend

Since 1984, the Friends have advocated for a strong library system. Their support has allowed K-State Libraries to expand our holdings and improve our facilities.

Through projects such as classroom upgrades, conservation of the Great Room murals and acquisition of much-needed technology and furniture, the Friends have contributed to the success of Kansas State University's students, faculty and community patrons. So many of the Libraries' improvements simply would not occur without their support.

Become a Friend of the K-State Libraries today.
Visit www.lib.k-state.edu/friends